

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

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R 241000Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7973

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAR ES SALAAM 1209

DEPT PLEASE PASS: ALL AF DIPLOMATIC POSTS (EXCEPT DAR ES SALAAM AND ADDIS ABABA) AND CAIRO, TRIPOLI, TUNIS, ALGIERS, RABAT, CASABLANCA, LOURENCO MARQUES, LUANDA, JOHANNESBURG, DURBAN, CAPE TOWN, BONN, LONDON, PARIS, LISBON, BRUSSELS, ROME, USUN, USMISSION GENEVA, USEC BRUSSELS

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: OAU, ELAB, PFOR, XA

SUBJECT: OPENING OF OATUU SYMPOSIUM ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 1109

1. SUMMARY: OAU-OATUU LABOR SYMPOSIUM ON SOUTHERN AFRICA GOT UNDER WAY APRIL 21. PRINCIPAL THEMES SOUNDED SO FAR ARE DESIRE OF AFRICAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND NEED TO INSTILL NEW IDEAS OF DISCIPLINE AND SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN LABOR UNIONS OF NEWLY INDEPENDENT NATIONS IN AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

2. JOINT "OAU-ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN TRADE UNION UNITY (DATUU) LABOR SYMPOSIUM ON WORKING AND LIVING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONDITIONS OF AFRICAN WORKERS IN TERRITORIES STILL

UNDER COLONIAL AND/OR RACIST DOMINATION" GOT UNDER
WAY AT 4:45 P.M. (DIPLOMATIC CORPS HAD SHOWN UP AS
REQUESTED AT 3:00) APRIL 21 IN DAR ES SALAAM'S
DIAMOND JUBILEE HALL, WITH LESS THAN HALF OF DELE-
GATIONS EXPECTED IN EVIDENCE.

3. OPENING ADDRESS GIVEN BY TANZANIAN FIRST VICE
PRESIDENT ABDOU JUMBE (WHO IS HEAD OF ZANZIBAR
GOVERNMENT). CALLING FOR UNITY OF TRADE UNION MOVE-
MENT IN EACH AFRICAN COUNTRY, JUMBE WENT ON TO BOAST
THAT ZANZIBAR HAD ABOLISHED ALL LABOR UNIONS, BECAUSE
AS A WORKER'S GOVERNMENT IT HAD NO NEED FOR THEM. HE
DISTINGUISHED BETWEEN ROLE OF TRADE UNION MILITANTS
IN COUNTRIES STILL UNDER COLONIAL "RACIST DOMINATION,
WHICH IS THAT OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS PARTICIPATING FULLY
IN THE STRUGGLE FOR LIBERTY, AND THAT IN COUNTRIES
WHICH HAVE ACHIEVED THEIR INDEPENDENCE AND PARTICULARLY
IN MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA. HERE THE MAJOR TASK IS
NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT. SINCE LABOR
TACTICS (I.E. STRIKES) CAN HURT THE ECONOMY,
UNIONS MUST BE RESPONSIBLE AND TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION
ECONOMIC NEEDS OF THE NATION BEFORE DECIDING ON USE
OF TRADITIONAL LABOR TACTICS. UNIONS MUST ALSO BE
DEDICATED AND SELF-SACRIFICING, AND VIGILENT AGAINST
SABOTAGE, SELF-SEEKING, AND UNSCRUPULOUS ADVENTURERS.
POST-COLONIAL SOCIETIES REQUIRE UNIONS TO GROW AND
ADAPT TO THE CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES, OUTGROWING
SUCH "COLONIAL HANGOVERS" AS TRADITIONAL COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING.

4. IN ORDER TO AID LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA,
FREE AFRICAN UNIONS SHOULD (1) ESTABLISH CLOSE
CONTACT WITH UNIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA; (2) EXCHANGE
VIEWS WITH THEM, GIVE THEM ADVICE AND MATERIAL SUPPORT;
AND (3) PARTICIPATE IN THESE ACTIVITIES THROUGH OATUU.
FINALLY, OATUU SHOULD ESTABLISH A SPECIAL BODY, PAT-
TERNERD ON THE OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE, TO COORDINATE
UNION ACTIVITY AIMED AT LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

5. NEXT SPEAKER WAS JEROME OKINDA, LABOR MINISTER
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OF GABON AND CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE AFRICAN LABOR
MINISTERS' CONFERENCE, WHO MADE MODERATE SPEECH
NOTING AFRICA'S SEARCH FOR CONCILIATION IN SOUTHERN
AFRICA EXPRESSED IN LUSAKA MANIFESTO, WHICH HE SAID
WAS STILL VALID. AFRICANS STILL DIFFER ON TACTICS,
AND LABOR SYMPOSIUM SHOULD ACT TO SEEK A CONSENSUS
TO STRENGTHEN UNITY IN THE OAU AND ELSEWHERE. THERE
WERE TOO MANY IDLE DENUNCIATIONS WHICH ONLY WEAKENED

AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS. WHAT ARE NEEDED ARE MORAL, POLITICAL, AND MATERIAL AID TO THOSE BROTHERS FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM. CONTACTS WITH SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGIMES, HE CONCLUDED, SHOULD BE LIMITED TO THOSE LEADING TO NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED.

6. FINAL MAIN SPEAKER WAS ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL OF OAU, WHO OUTLINED HISTORY OF SYMPOSIUM, WHICH HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN INTENDED AS PART OF TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF OAU BUT HAD GOTTEN POSTPONED. SINCE THEN CONDITIONS HAD CHANGED, WITH OVERTHROW OF PORTUGUESE FASCISTS AND POSSIBILITY OF SEEING "LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL" IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. THE CAUSE WAS NOW LESS THAN FORMERLY A CRUSADE AGAINST COLONIALISM, THOUGH IT REMAINS A CRUSADE AGAINST APARTHEID. RATHER THERE IS NEEDED A MARSHALLING OF WORKERS FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE LIBERATED COUNTRIES, AND THIS WOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF FURTHER OAU REMARKS LATER.

7. THERE FOLLOWED A MESSAGE FROM OAU CHAIRMAN PRESIDENT SIAD BARRE OF SOMALIA, ASKING THE SYMPOSIUM TO BE ACTION MINDED RATHER THAN RESOLUTION MINDED, AND CALLING FOR A REJECTION OF ANY CONTACTS (WITH SOUTHERN AFRICA) WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY APARTHEID, AND FOR OPPOSITION TO BANTUSTANS.

8. THERE WERE VOTES OF THANKS FROM OATUU VICE CHAIRMAN BARNABO FROM TOGO, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF ALGERIAN UGTA, SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS (SACTU), AND GHANA TRADE UNION CONGRESS (TUC).

9. AT RECEPTION GIVEN THAT EVENING, TANZANIAN HOST, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MINISTER OF LABOR GEISLAR MAPUNDA, TOLD DCM HE HOPED THIS OATUU MEETING WOULD FIND WAY "TO PUT TEETH" INTO RESOLUTIONS AGREED UPON BY OAU FONMIN AT THEIR MEETING HERE WEEK AGO. MAPUNDA DID NOT ANTICIPATE DIVISIONS OF OPINION AMONG LABOR LEADERS ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN POLICY THAT FONMINS HAD ENCOUNTERED. DAR ES SALAAM DECLARATION AND RESOLUTIONS ARE NOW OAU POLICY. MAPUNDA CONFIRMED THAT OTHER PRINCIPAL EFFORT BY TAN DEL WOULD BE TO MAKE SURE THAT TANZANIAN MOTTO UHURU NI KAZI (FREEDOM IS WORK) UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPTED BY UNION LEADERS FROM MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS SAME EVENING TANZANIA'S CHIEF UNION LEADER AND OATUU SECRETARY GENERAL STRESSED SIMILAR HOPES FOR MEETING AS THOSE MENTIONED BY MAPUNDA.

10. COMMENT: THOUGH OATUU ANXIOUS ASSUME MORE ACTIVE
ROLE IN LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, IT HARD TO SEE
HOW IT CAN PLAY VERY DIRECT PART. ONE POSSIBILITY,
HINTED AT DURING OPENING SESSION ("IT IS WORKERS WHO
LOAD AND UNLOAD SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT") WOULD BE TO SEEK
TO ENFORCE OAU-ORDERED ISOLATION OF SOUTH AFRICA DESPITE
INCLINATION OF SOME "MODERATE" GOVERNMENTS TO WINK AT
CLANDESTINE SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE. (MORE EFFECTIVE,
PERHAPS, WOULD BE EFFORTS ENLIST GREATER SUPPORT FOR
BOYCOTT OF SOUTH AFRICA BY WESTERN EUROPEAN AND NORTH
AMERICAN UNIONS.) OATUU SEEMS TO REALIZE ITS LIMITED
CAPABILITIES IN THIS AREA, AND THEREFORE IT IS ALSO FOCUSING
ON ANOTHER MAJOR LABOR PROBLEM RESULTING FROM AFRICAN
LIBERATION THE NEED TO CONVINCE WORKERS IN NEWLY
INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES THAT FREEDOM DOES NOT MEAN LESS
WORK FOR MORE PAY, BUT RATHER INCREASED EFFORT AND
DISCIPLINE IN SEEKING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. THAT
STRIKES, SLOWDOWNS, AND WAGE DEMANDS--HAILED BY
LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AS PATRIOTIC ACTIONS WHILE
COLONIAL RULE PERSISTS--ARE VIEWED BY THOSE SAME
MOVEMENTS AS ECONOMIC SABOTAGE AFTER THEY TAKE POWER,
IS A RUDE AWAKENING FOR WORKERS AND EVEN FOR LABOR
UNIONS. OATUU IS ATTEMPTING TO CUSHION SHOCK.
CARTER

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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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